

Summer Reading 2024



June 2024

Dear Families,

Reading for enjoyment during the summer is one of life's little pleasures for most of us. Our wish for your children is that they too look forward to reading those books that they didn't have time for during the school year. All students entering sixth, seventh, and eighth grade are expected to read **at least three books** over the summer. We recommend students use sticky notes or take notes to engage more deeply with their reading. Although there is no specific summer assignment to respond to the books, teachers may ask students to respond to their summer reading when they return to school in September.

While curating our lists, we try to choose books that are of high interest to students. The books also vary widely by reading level. If you feel that a book is not at an appropriate level, please help your child choose something else. You may want to read the books alongside your child so you can discuss them together. Some students may want to pair up with friends to read the same book together, too.

The following list is organized by genre. Each list includes a brief synopsis of the book, and some include links to book trailers or short video reviews.

You can check the [Dobbs Ferry Public Library](#) catalog to see if a book is available through the public library system. DFPL will be sponsoring a summer reading game this year for children ages 7-12. Please click [here](#) for more information.

Another option for children to continue learning over the summer is through the [Middle School Choice Board](#). The choice board is essentially a grid with a range of activities that gives students the opportunity to choose what they would like to learn and how they would like to show their learning.

Happy reading!

Best wishes,

Ellen Elsen
Library Media Specialist

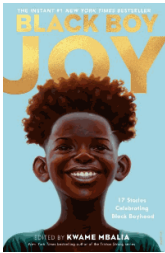
Michelle Yang-Kaczmarek
K-8 Literacy Coordinator

The Language and Literature Department at DFMS (Lisa Alfonzetti, Claudia Ducic, Ed Feller, Christine Grenier, Melissa Gretczko, Rachael Lief, Denise Rivera, and Jill Rosenblum)

Dobbs Ferry Middle School
Suggested Summer Reading for Sixth Grade
Summer 2024

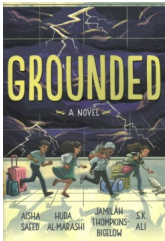
Students are expected to read any three books this summer, although we hope you will choose to read all summer. Books may be chosen from the suggestions below, but you are not limited to this list.

Short Story Collection



Black Boy Joy: 17 Stories Celebrating Black Boyhood, edited by Kwame Mbalia

This collection of stories, comics, and poems about the power of joy and the wonders of Black boyhood includes work by B.B. Alston, Jerry Craft, Lamar Giles, Varian Johnson, and Jason Reynolds. ★4 starred reviews



Grounded by Aisha Saeed, Huda Al-Marashi, Jamilah Thompkins-Bigelow, & S.K. Ali

Four unlikely kids' lives are changed forever when their flight is grounded by weather following a Muslim convention. Told in alternating points of view.



Once Upon an Eid: Stories of Hope and Joy by 15 Muslim Voices, edited by S.K. Ali and Aisha Saeed

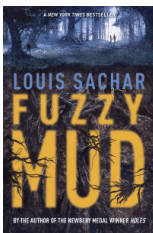
This collection showcases the most brilliant Muslim voices writing today, all about the most joyful holiday of the year: Eid! ★5 starred reviews



You Are Here: Connecting Flights, edited by Ellen Oh

Twelve young Asians Americans cross paths, meeting challenges and victories, in a busy airport. ★5 starred reviews

Action, Adventure & Mystery



Fuzzy Mud by Louis Sachar

Two middle-grade kids take a shortcut home from school and discover what looks like fuzzy mud but is actually a substance with the potential to wreak havoc on the entire world. ★3 starred reviews



Greenglass House by Kate Milford

At Greenglass House, a smuggler's inn, twelve-year-old Milo, the innkeepers' son, plans to spend his winter holidays relaxing, but soon guests arrive with strange stories about the house that send Milo and Meddy, the cook's daughter, on an adventure. (Other books in series: *Ghosts of Greenglass House*, *Bluecrowne*, *The Thief Knot*, *The Raconteur's Commonplace Book*)

★3 starred reviews

One Minute Book Review:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/10dbyowGxsQEKpApiqkRTXE0NfvtS149_/view?usp=sharing

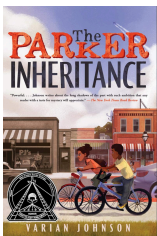


The Last Mapmaker by Christina Soontornvat

Joining an expedition to chart the southern seas, twelve-year-old mapmaker's assistant Sai, posing as a well-bred young lady with a glittering future, realizes she's not the only one on board harboring secrets when she discovers the ship's true destination. ★3 starred reviews 🏆 Newbery Honor Book

Book trailer:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1gma6WHCcUAP8TnS6fbNXXxD3QNR41Tlw/view?usp=share_link



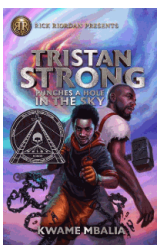
The Parker Inheritance by Varian Johnson

Twelve-year-old Candice Miller is spending the summer in Lambert, South Carolina, in the old house that belonged to her grandmother, who died after being dismissed as city manager for having the city tennis courts dug up looking for buried treasure. When she finds the letter that sent her grandmother on the treasure hunt, Candice finds herself caught up in the mystery and, with the help of a new friend, she sets out to find the inheritance, exonerate her grandmother, and expose an injustice.

★5 starred reviews 🏆 Coretta Scott King Author Honor

Author speaking about the book:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1g6yVw1HyDpkE2i6FyYcGNY4Sg6KiIncm/view?usp=sharing>



Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky by Kwame Mbalia

An epic adventure set in a richly imaged world populated with African American folk heroes and West African gods. Seventh-grader Tristan Strong tumbles into the MidPass and, with allies John Henry and Brer Rabbit, must entice the god Anansi to come out of hiding and seal the hole Tristan accidentally ripped in the sky. (Other books in series: *Tristan Strong Destroys the World*, *Tristan Strong Keeps Punching*)

★5 starred reviews



What Happened to Rachel Riley? by Claire Swinarski

Anna Hunt may be the new girl at East Middle School, but she can already tell there's something off about her eighth-grade class. Rachel Riley, formerly one of the most popular girls in school, has become a social outcast. But no one, including Rachel Riley herself, will tell Anna why. As a die-hard podcast enthusiast, Anna knows there's always more to a story than meets the eye. So she decides to put her fact-seeking skills to the test and create her own podcast around the question that won't stop running through her head: What happened to Rachel Riley? ★2 starred reviews



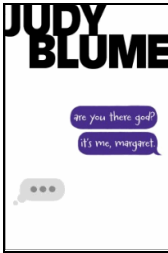
Wrecker by Carl Hiaasen

When fifteen-year-old Valdez Jones VIII, a.k.a. Wrecker, unwittingly becomes entangled with a group of smugglers and grave robbers, he must deep dive into their shady dealings in order to escape their twisted net. ★1 starred review

Book trailer:

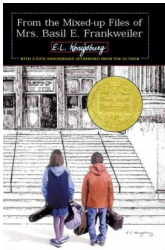
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1fYZRfMXfTOYaTXKf-sk90luHpQtFmV7s/view?usp=sharing>

Classics



Are You There, God? It's Me, Margaret. by Judy Blume

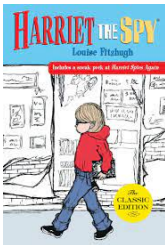
Faced with the difficulties of growing up and choosing a religion, a twelve-year-old girl talks over her problems with her own private God.



From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler by E.L. Konigsburg

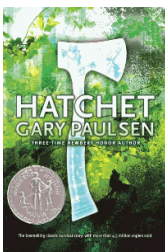
Having run away with her younger brother to live in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, twelve-year-old Claudia strives to keep things in order in their new home and to become a changed person and a heroine to herself.

🏆 Newbery Medal



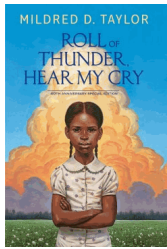
Harriet the Spy by Louise Fitzhugh

Harriet M. Welsch is a spy. In her notebook, she writes down everything she knows about everyone, even her classmates and her best friends. Then Harriet loses track of her notebook, and it ends up in the wrong hands. Before she can stop them, her friends have read the always truthful, sometimes awful things she's written about each of them. Will Harriet find a way to put her life and her friendships back together? (Other books in series: *The Long Secret*, *Sport*, *Harriet Spies Again*, and *Harriet the Spy, Double Agent*)



Hatchet by Gary Paulsen

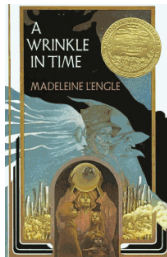
After a plane crash, thirteen-year-old Brian spends fifty-four days in the wilderness, learning to survive with only the aid of a hatchet given him by his mother, and learning also to survive his parents' divorce. (Other books in series: *The River*, *Brian's Winter*, *Brian's Return*, and *Brian's Hunt*) 🏆 Newbery Honor



Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry by Mildred D. Taylor

An African-American family living in Mississippi during the Depression of the 1930s is faced with prejudice and discrimination which its children do not understand. (Other books in series: *Song of the Trees*, *Mississippi Bridge*, *Let the Circle Be Unbroken*, *The Friendship*, *The Road to Memphis*, *The Gold Cadillac*, and *All the Days Past, All the Days to Come*)

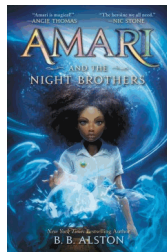
🏆 Newbery Medal



A Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L'Engle

Three extraterrestrial beings take Meg and her friends to another world. (Other books in series: *A Wind in the Door*, *A Swiftly Tilting Planet*, *Many Waters*, and *An Acceptable Time*) 🏆 Newbery Medal

Fantasy, Dystopia & Science Fiction



Amari and the Night Brothers by B.B. Alston

Thirteen-year-old Amari gets an invitation from her missing brother to join the Bureau of Supernatural Affairs and join in the fight against an evil magician. (Sequel: *Amari and the Great Game*) ★4 starred reviews

Book trailer:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pmC1ayOmHk0ppE1xHh-7oe2HyhAVi4VA/view?usp=sharing>



Elatsoe by Darcie Little Badger

Elatsoe lives in an alternate contemporary America shaped by the ancestral magics and knowledge of its Indigenous and immigrant groups. She can raise the spirits of dead animals—most importantly, her ghost dog Kirby. When her beloved cousin dies, all signs point to a car crash, but his ghost tells her otherwise: He was murdered. Who killed him and how did he die? With the help of her family, her best friend Jay, and the memory of great, great, great, great, great, great grandmother, Elatsoe must track down the killer and unravel the mystery of this creepy town and its dark past.

★3 starred reviews

Author speaking about the book:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/13eth_T-l7gm7Xa39RDkMPwgp5T67NasM/view?usp=sharing



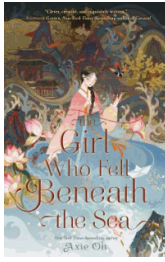
Ghosts by Raina Telgemeier

Catrina and her family have moved to the coast of Northern California for the sake of her little sister, Maya, who has cystic fibrosis. Cat is even less happy about the move when she is told that her new town is inhabited by ghosts. Graphic novel.

★4 starred reviews

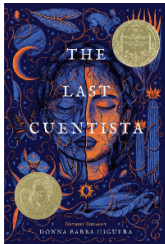
Book trailer:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1gwOz33nljXEEDjtzZQJXiL205PXA9GYw/view?usp=sharing>



The Girl Who Fell Beneath the Sea by Axie Oh

In this retelling of the Korean legend The Tale of Shim Cheong, sixteen-year-old Mina is swept away to the Spirit Realm, where, assisted by a motley crew of demons, gods, and lesser spirits, she sets out to awaken the sleeping Sea God and save her homeland and family from deadly storms.



The Last Cuentista by Donna Barba Higuera

Petra Pena wanted nothing more than to be a storyteller, like her abuelita. But Petra's world is ending. Earth has been destroyed by a comet, and only a few hundred scientists and their children - among them Petra and her family - have been chosen to journey to a new planet. Hundreds of years later, Petra wakes to this new planet - and the discovery that she is the only person who remembers Earth. A sinister Collective has taken over the ship during its journey, bent on erasing the sins of humanity's past. They have systematically purged the memories of all aboard - or purged them altogether. Petra alone now carries the stories of our past, and with them, any hope for our future. Can she make them live again?

★3 starred reviews 🏆 Newbery Medal & Pura Belpré Author Award

Author speaking about the book:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/15HH98QO5faZYZfVKivdsE7RYHnhDLeHK/view?usp=sharing>



The Manifestor Prophecy (Nic Blake and the Remarkables) by Angie Thomas

All Nic Blake wants is to be a powerful Manifestor like her dad. But before she has a chance to convince him to teach her the gift, a series of shocking revelations and terrifying events launch Nic and two friends on a hunt for a powerful magic tool she's never heard of so she can save her father from imprisonment for a crime she refuses to believe he committed. ★3 starred reviews

Book trailer:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Aw2d0mrIQTo5E6a930Yu568Lz3GeUhrY/view?usp=sharing>



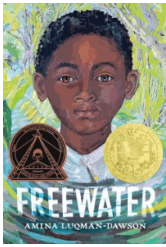
The Ogress and the Orphans by Kelly Barnhill

When a child goes missing from the Orphan House in the town of Stone-in-the-Glen, the mayor suggests the kindly Ogress is responsible, but the orphans do not believe that and try to make their deluded neighbors see the real villain among them. ★4 starred reviews 🏆 National Book Award Finalist

Book trailer:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/11G5i-PQpmdqguZSSyxZI27YSxxQwTIQR/view?usp=share_link

Historical Fiction

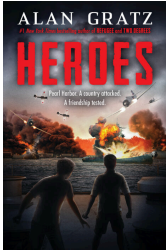


Freewater by Amina Luqman-Dawson

After fleeing the plantation where they were enslaved, siblings Ada and Homer discover the secret community of Freewater, and work with freeborn Sanzi to protect their new home from the encroaching dangers of the outside world. ★3 starred reviews 🏆 Newbery Medal & Coretta Scott King Author Award

Author speaking about the book:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/10pZJA4_4eYltxs2zl7oywiKNH7pc5J_B/view?usp=share_link

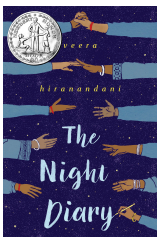


Heroes by Alan Gratz

December 6, 1941: Best friends Frank and Stanley have it good. Their dads are Navy pilots stationed at Pearl Harbor in Hawaii, and the boys get a front-row view of the huge battleships and the sparkling water. Yes, World War II is raging in Europe and in Asia, but the US isn't involved in the war. December 7th, 1941: Everything explodes. That morning, Frank and Stanley are aboard the battleship the USS Utah when Japanese planes zoom overhead and begin dropping bombs on the ships below. Chaos ensues as everyone scrambles to dive for safety. As the boys fight to make their way home amidst the carnage, it's clear that everything has changed. ★1 starred review

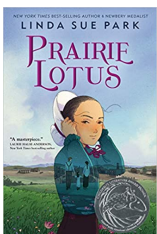
Book trailer:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1YIEwoUvc2M1OKoYOCLjenR88JpRhZ_CI/view?usp=sharing



The Night Diary by Veera Hiranandani

Shy twelve-year-old Nisha, forced to flee her home with her Hindu family during the 1947 partition of India, tries to find her voice and make sense of the world falling apart around her by writing to her deceased Muslim mother in the pages of her diary. (Sequel: *Amil and the After*) ★4 starred reviews 🏆 Newbery Honor book

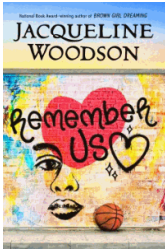


Prairie Lotus by Linda Sue Park

In Dakota Territory in the 1880s, half-Chinese Hanna and her white father face racism and resistance to change as they try to make a home for themselves. Includes author's note. ★5 starred reviews 🏆 Asian/Pacific American Award for Literature Honor book

One Minute Book Review:

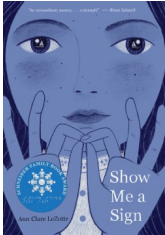
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1xQ_6BssrFlbw6nQ8M-87Q3VZLulgcnlp/view?usp=sharing



Remember Us by Jacqueline Woodson

The summer before seventh grade, as the constant threat of housefires looms over her Brooklyn neighborhood, basketball-loving Sage is trying to figure out her place in her circle of friends, when a new kid named Freddy moves in.

★5 starred reviews



Show Me a Sign by Ann Clare LeZotte

It is 1805 and Mary Lambert has always felt safe among the deaf community of Chilmark on Martha's Vineyard where practically everyone communicates in a shared sign language. Recent events have shattered Mary's life: her brother George has died, land disputes between English settlers and the Wampanoag are becoming increasingly bitter, and a "scientist" comes to town to study the origins of the island's widespread deafness—and Mary doesn't trust him. (Other books in series: *Set Me Free*, *Sail Me Away Home*)

★5 starred reviews 🟡 Schneider Family Book Award

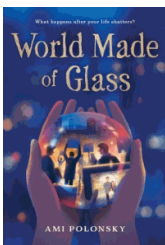
Author speaking about the book:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1rnD0LuKptFayfoA7w_F9phThR_McthQq/view?usp=sharing



Room to Dream by Kelly Yang

After years of hard work, Mia Tang finally gets to go on vacation with her family--to China! A total dream come true. Mia can't wait to see all her cousins and grandparents again, especially her cousin Shen. As she roams around Beijing, witnessing some of the big changes China's going through, Mia thinks about the changes in her own life. (Other books in series: *Front Desk*, *Three Keys*, *Key Player Top Story*) ★2 starred reviews



World Made of Glass by Ami Polonsky

Iris opens her eyes to hard truths and the power of her voice when her father dies of AIDS in 1987. ★4 starred reviews

Horror



Bloom by Kenneth Oppel

The invasion begins-- with rain. Rain that carries seeds. Seeds that sprout--overnight, everywhere. These new plants take over crop fields, twine up houses, and burrow below streets. They bloom--and release toxic pollen. They bloom--and form Venus flytrap-like pods that swallow animals and people. Three kids on a remote island seem immune to the toxic plants. They each have strange allergies--and yet not to these plants. What's their secret? Can they somehow be the key to beating back this invasion? (Other books in series: *Hatch*, *Thrive*) ★1 starred review

Video book review:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1H8eBspymYl8312w-5xsuZ76X5Ep3rncw/view?usp=sharing>



Guest: A Changeling Tale by Mary Downing Hahn

Young Mollie traverses eerie, perilous lands to retrieve her baby brother, Thomas, from the Kinde Folke, malicious sprites who snatched him and left a hideous changeling in his place.

Book trailer:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/11CTGwe-kh17AN1QMerzdtAXfEvpB4mYw/view?usp=sharing>



The Night Gardener by Jonathan Auxier

Irish orphans Molly, fourteen, and Kip, ten, travel to England to work as servants in a crumbling manor house where nothing is quite what it seems to be. Soon the siblings are confronted by a mysterious stranger and secrets of the cursed house. ★4 starred reviews



Ophie's Ghost by Justina Ireland

Discovering her ability to see ghosts when a cruel act ends her father's life and forces her to move in with relatives in 1920s Pittsburgh, young Ophelia forges a helpful bond with a spirit whose own life ended suddenly and unjustly.

★3 starred reviews

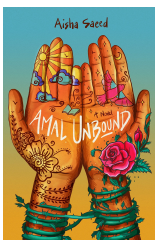


Small Spaces by Katherine Arden

After eleven-year-old Ollie's school bus mysteriously breaks down on a field trip, she has to take a trip through scary woods, and must use all of her wits to survive. (Other books in series: *Dead Voices*, *Dark Waters*, *Empty Smiles*)

★3 starred reviews

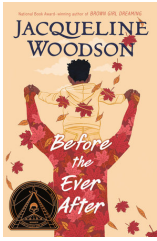
Realistic Fiction



Amal Unbound by Aisha Saeed

In Pakistan, Amal holds onto her dream of being a teacher even after becoming an indentured servant to pay off her family's debt to the wealthy and corrupt Khan family. (Sequel: *Omar Rising*)

★4 starred reviews



Before the Ever After by Jacqueline Woodson

ZJ's friends Ollie, Darry, and Daniel help him cope when his father, a beloved professional football player, suffers severe headaches and memory loss that spell the end of his career. ★5 starred reviews 🏆 Coretta Scott King Author Honor



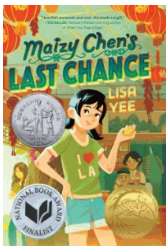
King and the Dragonflies by Kacen Callender

In a small but turbulent Louisiana town, one boy's grief takes him beyond the bayous of his backyard, to learn that there is no right way to be yourself.

★5 starred reviews 🏆 Coretta Scott King Author Honor & National Book Award for Young People's Literature

Author speaking about the book:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1vpoAoakuFoTVwOFzfG1ts3rB1DzN8wxQ/view?usp=sharing>

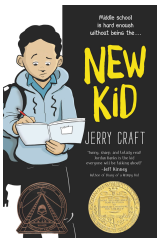


Maizy Chen's Last Chance by Lisa Yee

Eleven-year-old Maizy Chen visits her estranged grandparents, who own and run a Chinese restaurant in Last Chance, Minnesota. As her visit lengthens, she makes unexpected discoveries about her family's history and herself. ★2 starred reviews 🏆 Newbery Honor Book & Asian/Pacific American Award for Literature

Author reading first chapter:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1uV3W0z2FRefbyi5Nj7X0iHCHhgE2zlkH/view?usp=share_link



New Kid by Jerry Craft

Seventh grader Jordan Banks loves nothing more than drawing cartoons about his life. But instead of sending him to the art school of his dreams, his parents enroll him in a prestigious private school known for its academics, where Jordan is one of the few kids of color in his entire grade. Jordan soon finds himself torn between two worlds--and not really fitting into either one. Graphic novel. (Other books in series: *Class Act*, *School Trip*) ★4 starred reviews 🏆 Newbery Medal & Coretta Scott King Author Award

Author speaking about the book:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/18qSKxzw65uCFGCEu51WtEPab_yqRwvA/view?usp=sharing



Other Words for Home by Jasmine Warga

When things in her hometown in Syria become volatile, Jude and her mother are sent to live in Cincinnati with relatives. The American movies Jude has always loved haven't prepared her for starting school in the US. But this life also brings unexpected surprises--new friends, a whole new family, and a school musical that Jude just might try out for. Novel in verse.

★5 starred reviews 🏆 Newbery Honor book

One Minute Book Review:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1KW-q6FCj7K_n1Xf3uzmDMA7O4eGs8Q3I/view?usp=sharing



Rain Is Not My Indian Name by Cynthia Leitich Smith

Tired of staying in seclusion since the death of her best friend, a fourteen-year-old Native American girl takes on a photographic assignment with her local newspaper to cover events at the Native American summer youth camp.

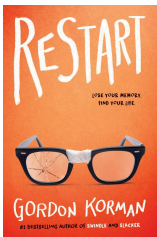


The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise by Dan Gemeinhart

Twelve-year-old Coyote and her father rush to Poplin Springs, Washington, in their old school bus to save a memory box buried in a park that will soon be demolished. (Sequel: *Coyote Lost and Found*) ★1 starred review

Book trailer:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/19cSWMMkne2-qw7HDZtBk3AKi1RfbWAtA/view?usp=sharing>

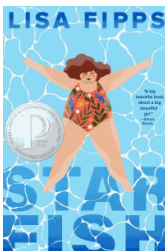


Restart by Gordon Korman

Chase does not remember falling off the roof, in fact he does not remember anything about himself, and when he gets back to middle school he begins to learn who he was through the reactions of the other kids--trouble is, he really is not sure he likes the Chase that is being revealed. ★2 starred reviews

Author speaking about the book:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1gl3zhSqF0PUgCk4fmV5oFzgvubMkEAtQ/view?usp=sharing>



Starfish by Lisa Fipps

Bullied and shamed her whole life for being fat, twelve-year-old Ellie finally gains the confidence to stand up for herself, with the help of some wonderful new allies. Novel in verse. ★4 starred reviews



To Night Owl from Dogfish by Holly Goldberg Sloan and Meg Wolitzer

Unhappy about being sent to the same summer camp after their fathers start dating, Bett and Avery, eleven, eventually begin scheming to get the couple back together after a break-up. Told entirely through emails. ★1 starred review

Book trailer:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1i20UfvGgPonZYh19LbwSiaS_ava7ceyb/view?usp=sharing



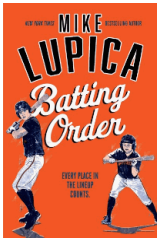
Wink by Rob Harrell

After being diagnosed with a rare eye cancer, twelve-year-old Ross discovers how music, art, and true friends can help him survive both treatment and middle school. ★4 starred reviews

Author speaking about the book:

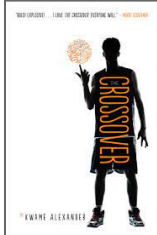
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1n8yp7XJ0vMo7N_txRQMbz-fNSJ9BsuBC/view?usp=sharing

Sports Fiction



Batting Order by Mike Lupica

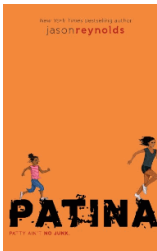
Twelve-year-old Matt Baker is the best all-rounder on his baseball team, but can he help Big Ben Roberson improve his hitting and stand up to his father?



The Crossover by Kwame Alexander

Fourteen-year-old twin basketball stars Josh and Jordan wrestle with highs and lows on and off the court as their father ignores his declining health. Novel in verse.

★6 starred reviews 🏆 Newbery Medal & Coretta Scott King Author Honor



Patina by Jason Reynolds

A newbie to the track team, Patina 'Patty' Jones must learn to rely on her family and teammates as she tries to outrun her personal demons. (Other books in series: *Ghost*, *Sunny*, *Lu*)

★5 starred reviews



Swim Team by Johnnie Christmas

Bree can't wait for her first day at her new middle school, Enith Brightha, home to the Mighty Manatees--until she's stuck with the only elective that fits her schedule, the dreaded Swim 101. The thought of swimming makes Bree more than a little queasy, yet she's forced to dive headfirst into one of her greatest fears. Lucky for her, Etta, an elderly occupant of her apartment building and former swim team captain, is willing to help. Graphic novel. ★4 starred reviews

🏆 National Book Award Finalist & Coretta Scott King Illustrator Honor

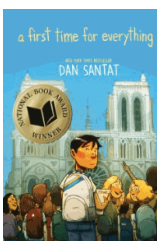
Informational Texts/Biographies/Memoirs



Buzzkill: A Wild Wander through the Weird and Threatened World of Bugs

by Brenna Maloney

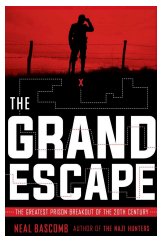
Insects play a critical role on our planet, from sustenance to pollination to medicines and more. The author tackles both the wacky and weird, as well as threats to insects and their habitats, their possible extinction, and ways that everyday people, like you, can prevent their decline. ★4 starred reviews



A First Time for Everything by Dan Santat

In this feel-good coming-of-age memoir, the best-selling author and Caldecott Medalist shares his life-changing middle school trip to Europe during which he experiences a series of firsts, including first love. Graphic memoir. ★4 starred reviews

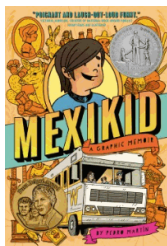
🏆 National Book Award for Young People's Literature



The Grand Escape: The Greatest Prison Breakout of the 20th Century

by Neal Bascomb

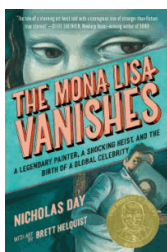
The story of a group of Allied POWs in WWI who dared to escape from Germany's most notorious prison camp. ★3 starred reviews



MexiKid by Pedro Martin

Pedro Martin's grown up in the U.S. hearing stories about his legendary abuelito. During a family road trip to Mexico, he connects with his grandfather and learns more about his own Mexican identity. Graphic memoir. ★3 starred reviews 🏆 Newbery Honor Book and Pura Belpré Author and Illustrator Award Book trailer:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1XCEG-meAPTHHYRspPtz-X9JjOp88CENq/view?usp=sharing>

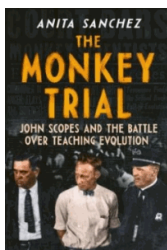


The Mona Lisa Vanishes: A Legendary Painter, a Shocking Heist, and the Birth of a Global Celebrity by Nicholas Day

A gripping account of how the Mona Lisa was stolen from the Louvre, how the robbery made the portrait the most famous artwork in the world--and how the painting by Leonardo da Vinci should never have existed at all. ★3 starred reviews 🏆 Robert F. Silbert Informational Book Winner

Video book review:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ND8QvjpS7Qlzh4iGM6a6_MBN68iXTkrr/view?usp=sharing

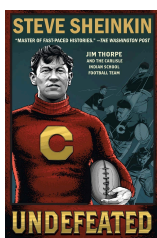


The Monkey Trial: John Scopes and the Battle over Teaching Evolution

by Anita Sanchez

An in-depth examination of the dramatic 1925 "Monkey Trial," which pitted science against religion as a teacher fought to teach his students about evolution, shows how this trial still reverberates a hundred years later.

★3 starred reviews



Undeclared: Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indian High School Football Team by Steve Sheinkin

Before they became legends, Jim Thorpe and Pop Warner met at the Carlisle Indian Industrial School in Pennsylvania, where they forged one of the winningest teams in American football history. ★5 starred reviews

Author speaking about the book:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/169REgoB79jsxWKj9lfA7leryh0bUbKM5/view?usp=sharing>

Starred Reviews are from the following publications:

Booklist

Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books

Horn Book Guide

Horn Book Magazine

Kirkus

Publisher's Weekly

School Library Connection
School Library Journal
Voice of Youth Advocates (VOYA)